

RESPONSES TO VENDOR QUESTIONS
SOLICITATION TIRNO-05-R-00005 (Posted 1/4/2005)

Questions 1 - 52--SEE RESPONSES POSTED ON 12/29/2004

Q53. Section I, Para. 8, subsections 8.1.2-8.1.7, Copying, Downloading, and Distributing of Materials--This section refers to inserting and/or linking of "source documents" into internal documents, training materials, briefs, etc. Please elaborate as to the IRS' definition of what documents and materials constitute "source documents"?

A53. "Source Documents" refers to information derived from the vendor's services. In general, this section is meant to give IRS permission to include data obtained from the vendor in the above types of IRS documents (without having to request that permission each time).

Q54. Section IV, Para. 2, page 107, Page Limits--Do the following proposal elements count towards the 75-page limit described in the subject RFP, or will the IRS consider exempting such elements like: (a) the training materials as listed in the discussion of Training Plan requirements on page 108, including copies of Quick Reference Guides, Instructor Guides and User Manuals; and (b) Sample reports and other exhibits that may provide the IRS with non-narrative information about the proposed solution.

A54. See amendment 5.

Q55. Amendment 1, Subsection 6 Para. 6, Subpara. II, page 114, Evaluation Factors and Subfactors For Online Research--The IRS has provided explanation of evaluation criteria regarding Factor 1: Technical Capability, Factor 2: Relevant Experience and Past Performance, and Factor 3: Price. Will the respondent's subcontracting plan also be evaluated as a factor? Are there other factors that will be included in the evaluation process, and if so, how will these additional factors be weighed?

A55. No additional factors/subfactors will be used for the evaluation of the proposals other than those identified in the solicitation as of amendment 4. The subcontracting plan will be reviewed separately from the technical and price related considerations for acceptability. An offeror will not be considered for award without an acceptable subcontracting plan. While the subcontracting plan will not be separately point scored, the use of subcontractors as part of an offerors technical approach will be evaluated as they relate to the evaluation factors and subfactors.

Q56. In amendment 1, Subsection 6, Item III, Evaluation Factors and Subfactors for Batch Processing, for the evaluation criteria listed in Item III, Factor 1, Subfactor 1: Demonstrated Understanding of the SOW, include I/O Plan, Training Plan, Management Plan, and Security Plan--If vendors submit a response to both the online data portion and the batch processing portion, would the IRS prefer a separate plan for batch and online services or an overall plan for asset locator service performance?

The IRS has no preference as to whether separate or combined plans are submitted for evaluation. However, the 75 page limitation applies whether the offeror decides to propose only on the online research requirement or both the online research and batch processing. In the event that an offeror proposes on both the online research and batch processing, it may submit a combined proposal or separate proposal for each of these requirements. However, the maximum page limitation applies regardless of whether an offeror submits a combined proposal or two separate proposals. Offerors may not exceed the limitation the total 75 page limitation by submitting two separate proposals.